

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration to be given the present reissue application. Applicant desires to broaden the scope of the original patent as applicant has determined that the patentee has claimed less than patentee had the right to claim. Provided below is a brief discussion of the status, as of the date of this amendment, of all patent claims and of all added claims, and an explanation of the support in the disclosure of the patent for the changes made to the claims. A brief review of the present invention is also provided to assist in the examination of this application. Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in a condition for allowance in view of the following remarks.

The Present Invention

U.S. Patent No. 6,359,353 is directed toward a submersible motor unit to be used for driving a pump that is submerged in a liquid. The motor unit includes a housing member and an inner member that are arranged to form an annular housing, referred to as a stator chamber, therebetween. A stator is disposed within the stator chamber to encircle at least a portion of a rotor that is operatively connected to rotate a drive shaft. A capacitor is also provided within the stator chamber to store electrical energy to be utilized during starting of the motor unit. Arranged in this manner, leads extending to conduct the electrical energy from the capacitor to the stator are disposed entirely within the housing member. Enclosing both the leads and the stator within the housing member eliminates the need to form apertures in the housing member through which the leads can extend to the stator, thereby minimizing the number of locations through which the fluid the motor unit is submerged in can leak into the housing member. An insulating material can optionally be provided to insulate the capacitor from adjacent metallic portions of the motor unit and to provide internal resistance to the pressure exerted on the housing unit by the fluid.

Amendments to the Claims

Initially, applicant notes that claims 1-5 of the original patent were allowed in the first Office action. The status of each of these claims is original since they are not amended herein.

Independent claim 6 is being added by way of this amendment to provide an independent claim without limitations that prevented the patentee from claiming what the patentee had the right to claim.

Claim 6 is a broader variation of claim 2 in at least two ways, the first being that claim 6 does not include limitations directed toward the positioning of first and second bearings between their respective end wall and a drive shaft. Instead, claim 6 merely recites that the drive shaft is rotatably supported and operatively coupled to the rotor. This amendment is supported in both the specification and the drawings where the use of first and second bearings according to one embodiment of the present invention is discussed. See, for example, Col. 3, Lines 11-21; and Fig.3, Item 90.

Claim 6 also does not limit the capacitor to an annular capacitor as does claim 2. The specification explains that the capacitor 104 is a device provided internally of the housing member to store electrical energy that can be utilized during starting of the motor unit. Col. 3, Lines 43-44. A phase shift is produced by the capacitor at startup to give additional torque to the motor unit. Col. 3, Lines 47-48. The production of a phase shift is common to a wide variety of capacitors, any of which can be utilized with the present invention. The annular capacitor is but one embodiment of a suitable energy storing device that can be disposed internally of the housing member, and is conveniently shaped to be used with the present motor unit.

Similar to claim 6, claim 11 has been added by way of the reissue application without limitations aimed toward the manner in which the drive shaft is rotatably supported, and without limiting the capacitor to an annular capacitor. Unlike the other existing or newly added claims, however, claim 11 includes a limitation requiring the leads used to conduct electrical energy between the capacitor and the stator to be disposed entirely within the housing member of the motor unit. As shown in Figure 3 of the present application, leads 112 and 114 do not permeate the housing member 30 at any point, and thus, are disposed entirely within the housing member 30.

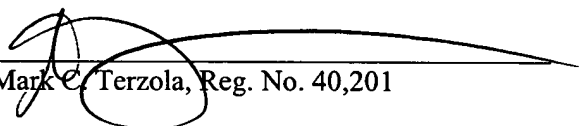
The remaining claims added by way of the present reissue application were included in the original patent for which this reissue application is filed.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that each of the newly added claims finds support in the specification of the original patent as described above. Accordingly, applicant believes that the present reissue application is in a condition for allowance, and thus, notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Please charge any fees resulting from this communication to our Deposit Account No. 50-0959, referencing our Docket No. 067920.1217RE.

Respectfully submitted,
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